

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DECISION
ON NOTIFICATION BY THE MEMBER STATES OF
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE CONVENTION ON THE VALUATION OF
GOODS FOR CUSTOMS PURPOSES OF 15 DECEMBER 1950

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(79) 247 final

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

During its 574th session held on 2 and 3 April 1979 the Council stated that it was prepared to ensure that the "customs valuation code" finalised during the recent GATT negotiations in Geneva would be implemented by the Community on 1 July 1980.

Existing Community law on customs valuation is based on the Convention signed in Brussels on 15 December 1950, to which all Member States are Contracting Parties.

The adoption of the new Agreement will require the withdrawal of the Member States from the Convention of 15 December 1950. According to Article XVI of the Convention withdrawal shall take effect one year after the date of receipt by the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs of notice of withdrawal.

Accordingly it is appropriate that a decision should be taken that Member States should deposit their notifications of withdrawal, in the required form, not later than 30 June 1979.

2

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DECISION

on notification by the Member States of withdrawal from
the Convention on the Valuation of Goods for Customs Purposes
of 15 December 1950

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,
and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas the Community has initialled an Agreement on the implementation
of Article VII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

Whereas implementation of that Agreement will require the replacement of
present Community law on customs valuation by law conforming thereto;

Whereas the present Community law on customs valuation is based on the
Convention on the Valuation of Goods for Customs Purposes which was signed
in Brussels on 15 December 1950, hereinafter referred to as the Convention;

Whereas all the Member States are Contracting Parties to the Convention;

Whereas Article XVI of the Convention provides that a Contracting Party
may withdraw therefrom and that withdrawal shall take effect one year after
the date of receipt by the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs of a
notification of withdrawal;

Whereas the Council at its 574th meeting on 2 and 3 April 1979 declared as
follows: -

"With reference to the implementation of the draft code on customs valuation,
the Council states that it is prepared to ensure that the code will be
implemented by the Community on 1 July 1980, on the basis of a mutually
satisfactory agreement with the United States; the Council is ready to
support the Commission's efforts to this end";

.../...

Whereas, to respect the date mentioned in the Council declaration, each Member State would need to deposit its notification of withdrawal from the Convention with the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs not later than 30 June 1979;

.../...

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Each Member State shall take the necessary steps to ensure that its notification of withdrawal from the Convention on the Valuation of Goods for Customs Purposes is deposited with the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs not later than 30 June 1979.

Done at on 1979.

For the Council
The President